

Gospels

Matthew

Key Pieces of Matthew

1. Author—Matthew

a. He was known as Levi before became a follower of Jesus.

b. He was a tax collector.

- Instead of telling Jesus' story chronologically, he grouped facts topically.



Key Pieces of Matthew

2. Audience and purpose

a. Matthew wrote to show Jewish Christians that Jesus is their promised Messiah.

b. He quotes the Old Testament more than twice as many times as any other gospel writer.

c. Matthew is a bridge between the OT & NT.



Key Pieces of Matthew

3. Theme—Jesus is the Messiah
4. Theme verse
 - a. Matthew 16:16—You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
 - b. (Note: *Messiah* & *Christ* both mean "anointed one." *Messiah* is Hebrew & *Christ* is Greek.)

ΙΧΘΥΣ

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Outline of Matthew's Gospel

1. Jesus' genealogy & birth (1:1-2:23)
2. Jesus' baptism & temptation (3:1-4:11)
3. Jesus' Galilean ministry (4:12-18:35)
4. Jesus' Judean ministry (19:1-20:34)
5. Jesus' final week in Jerusalem (21:1-27:66)
6. The Resurrection (28:1-20)

The Gospel in Matthew

1. It is the four books that tell the story of Jesus.
(When referring to a book, Gospel is always capitalized.)
2. It is the story itself—the good news that Jesus came to save sinners.
(When referring to the story, gospel is always lower case.)

The Gospel in Matthew

There are two kinds of Gospels

1. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are synoptic Gospels. They all see Jesus from the same point of view—historically—and contain much of the same material.
2. John is synoptic. It primarily sees Jesus spiritually.

The Gospel in Matthew

Matthew presents the gospel as both particular and universal.

1. It is *particular* in that it is for the Jews.
2. It is *universal* in that it is for all people everywhere.



People in Matthew

1. Jesus' family
 - a. He was Jewish, so Matthew traced his roots back to Abraham.
 - b. He was a king, so Matthew traced his roots back to King David. (OT prophets said the Messiah would be one of David's descendants.)



People in Matthew

2. John the Baptist

- a. He was Jesus' cousin.
- b. His job was to prepare the way for Jesus.

3. King Herod

- a. He was the ruler when Jesus was born.
- b. He tried to have Jesus killed.



People in Matthew

4. Romans

- a. The Roman Empire was the political backdrop of Jesus' life.

- b. Caesar's census brought Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.

- c. Pilate oversaw Jesus' execution.



People in Matthew

5. Disciples--A disciple is a student or follower.

6. Apostles

- These were 12 men Jesus chose for ministry.
- (Note: All apostles were disciples. However, not all disciples were apostles.)


